

Williamsport: A Town on the Edge of History

William's Port lay on edge of the Maryland frontier in 1787 when founded by Revolutionary War hero, General Otho Holland Williams. In 1790 our river town nearly became the Capital of the United States when President George Washington personally surveyed the town before selecting the current site of Washington, DC, 100 miles east. In 1832, Williamsport changed in character as the C&O Canal reached the town. Within a matter of years this town became the mid-point of the canal and a major place of transfer for goods transported by canal boats. In July of 1863, Confederate troops advanced and retreated through Williamsport following the Gettysburg Campaign. Here the Civil War could have ended when the flooded Potomac River nearly trapped General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.

Today, Williamsport continues to welcome change. Connecting to our history, and canal heritage. We have more canal structures (Lock House #44, Aqueduct, Cushwa Turning Basin, Trolley Barn C&O Canal Visitors Center and Museum, Lift Bridge, Bollman Bridge) than any other town along the canal. With your help, we are striving to revitalize Town Center providing services, conveniences and attractions for our residents, visitors, canal hikers and bikers.

Town Museum News: Although we are closed for the winter, reopening Sundays from 1-4p.m. in March, we are very busy retyping the Williamsport & Vicinity Reminiscences History Book. It will be finished by March. Our next project is to write **Williamsport and Vicinity Reminiscences Book #2**. Does this sound like something you would like to help compile, please call me at 301-223-7229. Also ongoing planning for "Retreat through Williamsport: Civil War Weekend" – July 8,9 & 10 and "WWII Weekend – On the Home Front" – October 7,8 & 9, please call me if you would like to help plan these great Town weekends!

Clothes of Hope Ministries at Williamsport UM Church, 25 E. Church St., will be open 9-11a.m. Thursdays, Feb 3 & 17, Saturday, Feb 5 & Monday, Feb 14. It will be open from 12:30-2:30p.m. Mondays, Feb 7 & 21 and Thursday, Feb 10. If schools are closed due to bad weather, Clothes of Hope will also be closed. There is no charge for the clothing, all donations are greatly appreciated.

Williamsport Rotary Club's 1st ever Bonanza, Saturday, February 5, 6 p.m. Held at the Fire Hall Tickets \$35 per couple - call 301-223-6445 or any Rotary member, includes meal & beverages by Leiter's Fine Catering and a final drawing of \$1000 with a drawing every 10th ticket getting their \$35 back. Proceeds fund two high scholarships and sends youth to Leadership training program during summer.

Rehoboth UM Church's Old Fashioned Family Dinner on Saturday, February 19th from 12 Noon to 6 PM., 30 East Salisbury Street, All-you-can-eat, turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, stuffing, green beans, sauerkraut, dessert and beverage. Adults \$9.00, children 5-11 \$5.00 and children 4 and under free. Tickets can be purchased at the door. The Fellowship Hall is handicap accessible from Salisbury Street. Carry-out is also available.

SJB (St. James Brethren) Indoor Yard Sale, Sat., February 26 from 8a.m. –2p.m. Spaces \$15 & Tables \$5. Breakfast served 8-10a.m. For more information contact Sam & Brenda Griffith 301-582-3343.

St. James Brethren's (17718 Lappans Road, St. James) SJB Comedy Dinner Theater – "The Money in Uncle George's Suitcase" – March 5 & 6 - 6p.m. Tickets go on sale Feb 13 – \$15 Adults; \$10 grades K-5; \$25 couples. Menu: Roast Pork, salad, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, rolls and pie. Proceeds benefit Mission Trip to Africa. For more info or to order tickets call Rachel Roth 301-302-7501.

UPCOMING TOWN ELECTION – March 7 – from 7a.m. – 7p.m. The election is for three (3) Town Council Members. The voting booths will be in Town Hall. Deadline to register to vote for this election will be Feb 21, if you have registered to vote in the general election for the County and State, you do not need to register for this election. Anyone wishing to run for the vacant council seats will need to register with the Town Clerk on or before February 25 by 4p.m.

Zion Lutheran Men's Group Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, March 8 4:30 – 7p.m. All the pancakes you care to eat plus a serving of scrambled eggs, sausage patties and beverages. Adults \$5; Children \$2.50 ages 5-12 and under 5 free. Tickets available at door.

SNOW REMOVAL FROM SIDEWALKS Snow and ice shall be removed from all sidewalks within the Town on the same day as the cessation of any snowfall, sleet or freezing rain or within the first eight (8) hours of daylight after the cessation of any such weather, whichever period is longer. In the event the snow is not removed within 24 hours of the snowfall, sleet or freezing rain, the Town shall have the right to take all necessary action to remove the snow, sleet or freezing rain in accordance with Town Ordinance and shall charge that expense to the property owner. Need more information, call Town Hall 301-223-7711- Dave Danfelt, Code Enforcement Officer.

2011 Town Of Williamsport Calendar of Events

Date	Event – Get more information each month in Town Newsletter
February 5 6p.m.	Williamsport Rotary 1 st Bonanza info 301-223-6445
February 19 Noon – 6p.m.	Rehoboth UM Ch Old Fashioned Family Dinner
March 7 7a.m.-7p.m.	Town Election for 3 Town Council Members
March 8 4:30 – 7p.m.	Zion Men's Group Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
April 1 6-9p.m.	Classic Car Cruise In & Entertainment – Town Center
April 2 10a.m.	Conococheague Little League Opening Day Ceremony
April 23 10a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt – Williamsport Fire & EMS – Byron Pk
April 24 6:30a.m.	Easter Sunrise Service – Town Museum – Ministerium
May 1 3p.m.	Community Band Free Spring Concert – Barn
May 6 6-9p.m.	Classic Car Cruise In & Entertainment – Town Center
May 7 8a.m. – 1p.m.	Employee's Classic Car Show – Byron Park
May 8 Rain Date	Employee's Classic Car Show Rain Date
May TBA	Williamsport Community Pool Opens – May Town Newsletter
June 3 6-9p.m.	Classic Car Cruise In & Entertainment – Town Center
June 4	Street Fair – East Salisbury St. – Rehoboth UM Church
June 11 A.M.	HFSA Nick Adenhardt 5K Run/Walk – info 301-714-1121
June 11 2p.m.	Red Men's Flag Retirement & Recognition Ceremony
June 13-19	Downsville Ruritan Carnival – Byron Park
July 1 6-9p.m.	Classic Car Cruise In & Entertainment – Town Center
July 1	Davisson Brothers Band – Barn
July 2	TBA
July 3	TBA
July 4	July 4 th Celebration, Concert & Fireworks – Byron Pk
July 4 A.M.	Run 4 Freedom – info 240-313-2808
July 8, 9 & 10	Retreat through Williamsport: Civil War Weekend
July 16	Bike Nite – Town Center
July 16-23	River City Little League Baseball Classic – Byron Park
August 2	National Night Out – Swimming Pool Area & Pav 3
August 5 6-9p.m.	Classic Car Cruise In & Entertainment – Town Center
August 13	Cumberland Valley Cycling Club Antietam Velo Club – Byron Park
August 13	Youth Blast! Byron Park
August 14-21	Downsville Ruritan Carnival
August 25, 26, 27 & 28	Williamsport Days
September 2 6-9p.m.	Classic Car Cruise In & Entertainment – Town Center
September 18 12:30-5:30p.m	Pirate Plunder – Town Center
October 1	Harvest Hoedown – Byron Park
October 1	Canal Family Reunion – Cushwa Basin
October 7 6-9p.m.	Classic Car Cruise In & Entertainment – Town Center
October 7, 8 & 9	WWII & USO Weekend – On the Home Front – Barn
October 9	Community Band's WWII Patriotic Concert – Barn
October 28	Williamsport Merchant Trick 'n Treat – Town Center
October 30 6-8:30p.m.	Haunted History Walk – Around Town
November 11	Veteran's Day Ceremony – American Legion Post 202
November 12	Williamsport Comm Band's 150 Money Bonanza
November 24 11a.m. – 2p.m	Free Thanksgiving Dinner – Williamsport UM Church
December 2 7p.m.	Christmas Parade & Park Lighting – Town & Byron Park
December 3	Williamsport Community Home Decorating Contest
December 3-4 & 10-11 5-8p.m.	Charlie Brown Christmas – Barn at Springfield Farm
December 3-4 & 10-11 5-8p.m.	Visit Santa at the Charlie Brown Christmas in the Barn
December 6 12-5p.m.	Day Opening – Charlie Brown Christmas in the Barn
December 18 3p.m.	Williamsport Comm Band's Free Holiday Concert – WHS
December 25 11a.m. – 2p.m.	Free Christmas Dinner – Rehoboth UM Church
January 1, 2012 12 Noon	Polar Bear Plunge – River Bottom Park

We hope you will mark your calendars to participate in many of the events planned for 2011!

Watch the monthly Williamsport Town Newsletters for more event details!

If you have event suggestions, please call Town Hall 301-223-7711 or Joan Knode 301-223-7229.